MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 JANUARY 1982

Egypt

New Cabinet -- Cairo radio broadcast a presidential decree appointing a new Cabinet headed by Dr Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din as prime minister. Among the changes, Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim replaces Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid as deputy prime minister for economic and financial affairs and Hasan Sulayman Abu Basha replaces Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il as interior minister. While Isma'il remains in the Cabinet as deputy prime minister for services and minister of local government, Dr 'Abd al-Majid loses the Ministry of Planning, Finance and Economy and no longer holds any Cabinet post. The Ministry of Planning, Finance and Economy has been split and assigned three new ministers and the industry and mineral resources minister has been replaced. Other new appointments include the minister of tourism and the ministers of state for health, religious trusts, agriculture and food security and information. According to another presidential decree, broadcast by the radio, Prime Minister Muhyi ad-Din has been appointed minister in charge of Al-Azhar, the religious university.

Before the announcement of the new Cabinet on 3 January, MENA reported that Muhyi ad-Din said President Husni Mubarak had entrusted him with the prime ministership so that Mubarak could devote full time to the Presidency.

Reinstatement of Journalists, Professors -- MENA transmitted two presidential decrees reinstating 30 journalists and 29 university professors to their previous jobs.

Relations With France -- Cairo radio reported that French Defense Minister Charles Hernu announced that France has agreed to supply Egypt with 20 Mirage-2000 aircraft. Speaking at a 3 January press conference following discussions with Egyptian officials in Cairo, Hernu said France has agreed to finance this "first installment" of the new Mirages. According to the radio, Defense Minister Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah told the press conference that the Mirages will be handed over in 1982 and will be paid for by a $1-billion loan that will be repaid in 12 biannual installments.

MENA reported that President Mubarak met with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson on 3 January. Noting that they discussed bilateral relations, Cheysson said afterwards, in a statement reported by MENA, that the presence of the three French ministers in Egypt over the weekend indicates France's great interest in cooperation with Egypt. Earlier, MENA noted that in an interview broadcast by Cairo television on 1 January, Cheysson reaffirmed France's support for a Palestinian state and reiterated his view that a solution to the Palestinian problem will come through direct negotiations between the sides concerned without interference by external forces.

Relations With Israel -- Cairo radio reported that Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali announced that the joint Egyptian-Israeli higher committee will hold a new round of talks in Cairo on 11 January. During its 3 day session, the committee will discuss the forthcoming transfer of authority in the Sinai, 'Ali said.

Saudi Arabia

Fahd in Dhahran -- SPA reported that in a recent speech to officers in Dhahran, Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said that Saudi Arabia's lack of diplomatic relations with Eastern bloc countries does not mean "indifference" toward them. He said the kingdom does not harbor enmity toward the Eastern bloc, adding that there will be "some form of friendship between us even if it is not through diplomatic representation." Prince Fahd also praised the readiness of U.S. officials to resolve differences with Saudi Arabia.

SPA also reported that during an "open dialogue" with an audience at Dhahran's Petroleum and Minerals University, Prince Fahd said Egypt is responsible for the return to Saudi Arabia of the Red Sea islands of Tiran and Sinafir, which were leased to Egypt and then captured by the Israelis in 1967.

Sa'ud Interview, Israeli Reaction -- MENA reported that in a statement broadcast by Riyadh radio, a Saudi Foreign Ministry source denied that Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal told the New York TIMES that Saudi Arabia is prepared to recognize Israel if it gives up the occupied territories and recognizes the rights of the Palestinian people. According to the statement, Prince Sa'ud said instead that if Israel agreed to recognize the rights of the Palestinian people and to withdraw from the occupied territory, peace could prevail in the Middle East. IDF radio quoted Israeli political sources' as stating that Prince Sa'ud's remarks could not change Israel's "complete objection" to Prince Fahd's Middle East peace plan. They added that Israel is prepared to hold negotiations with any Arab country, but without preconditions.

Sa'ud on Saudi-Libyan Relations -- Riyadh radio reported that in a statement published by 'UKAZ on 1 January, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud said the restoration of Saudi-Libyan relations represents a practical beginning for the settlement of Arab differences and for the success of the forthcoming Arab summit conference.

Israel

UN Sanctions -- Jerusalem radio reported that Israel has been given a specific promise by the United States that it will oppose the imposition of sanctions on Israel at the 5 January UN Security Council debate on the application of Israeli law to the Golan Heights. A 1 January Jerusalem radio reported noted that Israel had officially informed the UN secretary general of its rejection of the Security Council's demand that the Golan Law be canceled.

Golan Curfew -- According to Jerusalem radio's English service, Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan confirmed on 1 January that the Golan Heights village of Majdal Shams had been under curfew since 31 December for "security reasons." Later on 1 January, Jerusalem radio reported that the curfew had been lifted but that troops remained in the village. On 4 January the radio reported that a search was underway in the area for infiltrators from Syria.

Yamit Evacuation -- Citing Yosi Mas, a leader of the Yamit movement to stop the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai. The Jerusalem POST reported that Yamit settlers are receiving "clear signals" from "senior government sources" to remain in the Yamit region settlements because there is a chance that the final withdrawal will not take palce by the 25 April deadline. Mas said the sources include some senior Cabinet ministers, but not Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

Rafah Curfew -- Following "repeated disturbances" on 2 and 3 January, a curfew was imposed on the Gaza Strip town of Rafah, Jerusalem radio reported. It indicated that the disturbances were the result of tension over the separation of the military and civilian administrations in the Gaza Strip.

Iraq

Israeli Overflights -- INA reported an announcement by an Iraqi military spokesman that two Israeli F-15 aircraft violated Iraqi airspace on the afternoon of 3 January. As during a similar incident on 30 November, INA said the Israeli planes overflew Makr an-Na'am, near the Saudi border, and were intercepted by Iraqi planes, which forced the Israeli aircraft to flee. IDF radio reported that the IDF spokesman declined to comment on the Iraqi claim.

Commenting on the 30 December incident, an Iraqi military spokesman said in a statement, reported by INA on 1 January, that the Israeli incursion into Iraqi airspace was part of the "Zionist-Persian coordination to preoccupy Iraq on more than one front" so as to ease Iraqi pressure on Iran.

Call for Arab Break With Iran -- INA reported that Iraq has called on Arab countries to sever their relations with Iran and expel Iranian diplomatic missions from their territories. The call was made by an Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman commenting on the recent expulsion of Iranian diplomats from Bahrain and the YAR.

Tehran on Army Headquarters Explosion -- Tehran radio's Arabic service reported that 200 Popular Army commanders and men were killed when a member of an Iraqi mujahedin group drove a car loaded with explosives into the building housing the Popular Army's general headquarters in Baghdad.

Iran

Velayati Remarks, Tour -- IRNA reported that after two meetings in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on 1 January, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati held a press conference in which he denied that Syrian mediation in the Iran-Iraq war had been discussed, asserting that it was not included on the agenda and that reports about such mediation are lies. After his return to Iran the following day, Velayati told Tehran radio that the Syrian leader ha thanked the Iranians for an invitation to visit Iran, saying he will do so at the first opportunity. The radio also reported that in a 3 January press conference, Velayati said Iran is willing to listen to anyone who visits the country and wants to talk about the war, but still adheres to its stated conditions for an end to the war with Iraq. During his talks with the Iranians, President al-Asad regarded Iran's conditions as fair and proper, Velayati said, and did not submit proposals of his own for an end to the war. Velayati added that Iran also welcomes visits by the Algerian, Libyan and PLO leaders.

According to another Tehran radio report, Velayati's delegation stopped over in Istanbul on its way back from Syria. The report indicated that the talks with Turkish officials were linked to an impending visit to Iran by a high-ranking Turkish economic and technical delegation.

Oil Team for Libya -- In a statement carried by Tehran radio, the Oil Ministry announced the departure for Libya of 10 senior Iranian Oil Ministry experts. In an interview with the radio, an Oil Ministry official noted that the team is to undertake a survey of Libya's oil industry as a prelude to action by Iran to help the Libyans solve problems caused by the departure of U.S. experts. A 3 January JANA report noted that Libyan oil officials met in Tripoli with the Iranian oil delegation, which expressed Iran's readiness to provide all technical aid to assist Libya's struggle against U.S. "imperialism."

Security Situation -- Tehran radio reported that revolution guards arrested 15 members of Peykar and 2 Mojahedin-e Khalq activists in recent raids on opposition hideouts in Tehran. The radio also reported further clashes between government forces and Kurdish rebels in Hamzehabad and near Mahabad at the end of December. Citing ETTELA'AT's 3 January edition, AFP reported that the authorities have executed five Mojahedin since 26 December. According to another AFP report, Supreme Court President Ayatollah 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili denied charges that the authorities executed eight Baha'i leaders at Evin Prison on 27 December.

Iran - Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio broadcast an Iranian Joint Staff communique announcing that on 1 January Iranian forces launched an attack against Iraqi forces in the Tavilah area, destroying the command base of Iraq's 116th Brigade and killing or wounding 700 Iraqis. The radio later reported that during the operation Iranian forces penetrated more than seven Iraqi bases inside Iraqi territory.

The 31 December Joint Staff communique, broadcast by Tehran radio, reported intense fighting on the Nowsud front, while the 3 January Iraqi Armed Forces communique, carried by INA, reported a battle around Nowsud on 2 January in which it claimed 907 Iranians were killed.

The 1 January Iranian Joint Staff communique, broadcast by Tehran radio, claimed Iranian aircraft sank an Iraqi gunboat. According to INA, the Iraqi military spokesman, "ridiculed" this claim.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that the pipeline that carries Iraqi oil to the Tripoli refinery was blown up, causing a huge fire. Citing AN-NAHAR, KUNA reported that Lebanese Government sources had received an anonymous telephone call claiming that a group calling itself the Iraqi Strugglers' Movement claimed responsibility for the explosion.

According to Voice of Lebanon radio, clashes occurred in Tripoli over the weekend in which six Syrians were killed and six wounded. In southern Lebanon, a Ghanaian soldier serving with UNIFIL was killed and another was wounded when they were attacked on 2 January by unidentified persons, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio also noted that the Palestinians released three southern Lebanese villagers they had been holding for 10 days.

Kuwait

KUNA reported that as of 1 January the price of Kuwaiti oil was reduced from $33 to $32.30 per barrel.

Libya

Tripoli radio broadcast a speech by Petroleum Secretary 'Abd as-Salam az-Zaq'ar to the General People's Congress in which he asserted that because of a "plot" led by the United States, the oil market deteriorated during the last half of 1981, adversely affecting the oil revenues of Libya and other progressive OPEC countries. According to Az-Zaq'ar, the plot aimed at flooding the world market with oil of "reactionary" countries in order to resist the progressive states in OPEC. He accused Saudi Arabia and other countries of causing an oil glut through overproduction and of refusing to reduce production or deal with the problem within OPEC.

DAILY REPORT

South Asia

Vol VIII No 001 *4 January 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Afghan Leaders Greet Poland's 'aruzelski C 1
Spokesman Replies to Iranian Statement C 1
U.S. 'Conspiracies' Against Libya Attacked C 3
Karmal Receives PDPA Membership Card No 1 C 3
La'eq Returns From Visit to Paktia Province C 4
Afghan Mujahidin Down Plane, 2 Helicopters C 4
[Karachi NAWA-E-WAQT 30 Dec]
Pakistani Tribes' Protests Against Fines C 5
Briefs: Protocols With CSSR, Hungary; Mechanization of Agriculture C 5

INDIA

Rao Interviewed on Indian Foreign Policy E 1
Gandhi on Opposition Parties' Unity Moves E 1
Contract Signed With USSR on Dam Construction E 1

PAKISTAN

Saudi Oil Minister Holds News Conference, Leaves F 1
Ordinance Promulgated To Control Exit From Country F 1
Briefs: Highway Link With Iran F 1

IRAN

Velayati Returns From, Comments on Syrian Talks I 1
Stopover in Turkey I 1
Arrival in Tehran I 1
Interview on Return I 1
Khomeyni Breifed I 3
Press Conference I 3
ETTELA'AT on Talks I 4
Iranian Ambassador on Relations With Syria I 4
[ETTELA'AT 20 Dec]
Oil Official on Dispatch of Experts to Libya I 6
Majlis Deputy on Terrorism, Golan Heights I 7
Khomeyni Meets With Civilian, Military Leaders I 8
Supreme Court President Ardabili Interviewed I 8
Musavi Discusses Budget, Islamic Councils I 10
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communiques 746-749 I 11
746: 31 Dec Report I 11
747: 1 Jan Report I 12
748: 2 Jan Report I 13
749: 3 Jan Report I 13
Iranians Attack Seven Bases Inside Iraq I 14
Interior Minister on Tour of Fars Province I 14
Briefs: Gachsaran Governor Appointed I 14

AFGHAN LEADERS GREET POLAND'S JARUZELSKI

LD312118 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Message from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Worker's Party Central Committee, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers and chairman of the Military Council of National Salvation -- date not given]

[Text] Comrade W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Worker's Party Central Committee, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers and chairman of the Military Council of National Salvation, we hereby convey the warm fraternal greetings and profound revolutionary solidarity of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, the government and the people of the DRA and ourselves, to you dear comrade, and through you to the Central Committee of the Polish United Worker's Party and the government and people of Poland.

The party, the people and the government of the DRA, having a profound belief in friendship and fraternal relations, have been following with concern the recent years' events in the fraternal country of Poland, and we are aware of the last-ditch efforts, intrigues and conspiracies of the internal reactionary circles and international imperialism to disrupt the order for national unity, security and the natural processes of development of Polish society on the path of socialism.

We regard the rational and timely measures of the Polish State Council under your leadership, dear comrade, for the salvation of the country from the brink of collapse and economic, social and political disaster, and the restoration of social order in the country as completely proper and lawful; and we see with pleasure that normal conditions, legality and social order are being restored in your country.

We regard the recent measures of your party and government as merely an internal matter of independent Poland and we vigorously denounce the efforts and plots of those who, beyond the borders of Poland in the West, are attempting conspiracies against the people of Poland.

We reaffirm our fraternal solidarity with the Polish United Worker's Party, the people and the Military Council of National Salvation. With good wishes for the glorious victories of the toiling people of Poland for further construction of the progressive socialist society of Poland, we wish 1982 will be a year of victories and peace for them.

With profound feelings of friendship and international solidarity with the people of Poland, despite the rather difficult situation of the present time, we present 300 tons of raisins and other dried fruits from our country as the small gift of the people of Afghanistan to the Polish people, and especially the children.

With warm and comradely greetings, [signed] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council; Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers

SPOKESMAN REPLIES TO IRANIAN STATEMENT

LD311904 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari and Pashto 1600 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] A DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman, replying to a question from a BAKHTAR correspondent concerning the recent statement on Afghanistan by the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that the statement, which reached us through the mass media, shows once again that rightist circles in the leadership of the brother country are still not prepared to accept and realize the true character of the antifeudalist and anti-imperialist national democratic April Revolution.

The statement shows that the rightist circles in the Iranian leadership, by joining hands with the remnants of the monarchy and the SAVAKists, are always fanning anti-Afghan lunacy and [word indistinct] and by publishing such statements interfere openly in the domestic affairs of free and independent Afghanistan. These circles in the Iranian leadership attempt to demonstrate that the past 2 years' events in Afghanistan have helped U.S. imperialism to consolidate and strengthen its presence in this region of the world and is an (?obstacle) to region's Muslim rising against the imperialist and Zionist hegemonist policies. At the same time they claim the events in Afghanistan helped the United States to militarize some countries in the region.

We do not know whether some circles in the Iranian leadership are consciously or unconsciously making such statements. Such an analysis and assessment of the events and circumstances is incorrect and unrealistic from the very outset. Everybody knows that U.S. imperialism spread its satanical sway with the help of its servants such as the ex-shah of Iran and the former regimes in Afghanistan and other reactionary forces in the region long before the April Revolution and the Iranian revolution and that it intended to expand and consolidate its military presence and to bring under its influence all the (?area) of the world. Again everybody knows that the victory of the glorious antifeudalist and anti-imperialist April Revolution in Afghanistan and the anti-imperialist revolution in Iran condemned all (?expanionist) designs of U.S. imperialism to a shameful defeat. Fact, evidence and irrefutable documents show clearly that the victory of the new development stage of the April Revolution foils the realization of U.S. imperialism's dream to eliminate Afghanistan and transform it into a base of U.S. imperialism. At the same time, everybody also knows that long before the Afghan revolution, the United States had military bases in the region and had (?militarized) some of the countries -- particularly Pakistan and the shah's Iran. As the Iranian authorities themselves have said, the great Satan, the United States, has now armed to the teeth some countries neighboring Iran and Afghanistan.

Let us ask: Is it not conscious or unconscious cooperation to help those countries which are armed with the weapons of U.S. imperialism by maintaining close contact and friendship with them? Of course, the answer to this is obvious. If they believe Afghanistan promotes imperialist influence, they have forgotten the true nature of imperialism and have unconsciously exonerated it.

The undeclared war which U.S. imperialism has unleashed against independent Afghanistan and its activities against the anti-imperialist revolution in Iran indicate that these revolutions have dealt such a strong blow to American interests in the region that the United States, like a wounded snake, will resort to any frantic means to restore its interests. Iran is also a witness to the fact that U.S. imperialism and its servants have consistently tried to pit the Afghan and Iran revolutions against each other and to create enmity. With much regret we must say that the (?rightist) circles in the Iranian leadership, consciously or unconsciously, promote this policy.

For example, they want to prevent our Iranian brothers from discovering the facts concerning the character of the Afghan revolution by presenting inflated figures about the so-called refugees that have been announced by the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

It is clear that a large number of those people whom the Iranian Foreign Ministry describes as refugees had emigrated to Iran and other (?countries in the region) to work many years before the April Revolution. As for the other so-called refugees, the counterrevolutionary criminal terrorist bands operating against Afghanistan, according to the Iranian authorities and as admitted by that country's press, they embark on and are engaged in crimes, illegal actions, smuggling and anti-Afghan and anti-Iranian counterrevolutionary actions. The Iranian authorities have occasionally closed down the offices of these terrorist gangs.

It is difficult to accept that the Iranian authorities are not (?aware) of the innumerable documents which have been published by the DRA for the return of those compatriots who are living outside the country. The DRA has announced several times that the doors of the country are open for the return of those compatriots who have left their homeland as a result of enemy deception and propaganda.

The DRA Foreign Ministry once again invites the Iranian authorities to understand the facts about the Afghan revolution and to accept the (?present) realities and not to be deceived by the imperialist conspiracies. If the Government of Iran truly wants to strengthen the anti-imperialist struggle and to foil imperialist intrigues and conspiracies then it should not reject the hands of cooperation and friendship between the two countries and those (?forces) who have defended the Afghan and Iranian revolutions from the very (?beginning).

U.S. 'CONSPIRACIES' AGAINST LIBYA ATTACKED

LD030623 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Declaration issued by the DRA's Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization on 2 January in Kabul]

[Text] Kabul, 2 Jan (BAKHTAR) -- The Organization of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship of the DRA along with its Libyan brothers and all progressive forces of the world condemned the intensification of the conspiracies and the sinister plots hatched by U.S. imperialism, the leading centre of international terrorism, against the Arab people of Libya and consider them a flagrant violation of the norms and standards of the international law.

The continuation of the desperate efforts of the U.S. imperialism against the people of Libya is reckoned as a component part of U.S. sinister plots against the liberation movements of the peoples of the world.

The conspiracies of the United States against Libya and the continuation of an undeclared war against the revolutionary people of Afghanistan by imperialism and its collaborators constitutes the diverse categories of the single aggressive imperialist policy which threatens peace in our countries and in the world arena as well.

The encroachment of U.S. airplanes over the airspace of Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the carrying out of American military maneuvers with the intrusion of their war planes and war ships in the coasts of that country and making an attempt on the life of the state leaders of (?Libya) are all the components of the same broad aggressive plan of the United States against the people of Libya and is considered an obvious intervention in the internal affairs of that country.

We express our profound solidarity with the people of Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in their just struggle (?against) the common enemy of all the people of the world, this enemy of peace and social progress, namely the world-devouring U.S. imperialism, and strongly condemn here aggressive military measures.

Dr. Anahita Ratebzad, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDPA and president of the Organization of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

KARMAL RECEIVES PDPA MEMBERSHIP CARD NO 1

LD030004 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, at a glorious ceremony held at the party's Central Committee headquarters today, received PDPA membership card No 1.

The ceremony for the distribution of party membership cards was opened at 1100 by Babrak Karmal with the playing of the national anthem.

At this ceremony Babrak Karmal distributed party membership cards in alphabetical order to the permanent and candidate members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and to the Secretariat members.

Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of the Politburo and secretary of the party's Central Committee, spoke first at this ceremony and then he presented party membership card No 1 to Babrak Karmal to the applause and loud, enthusiastic response of the audience.

Babrak Karmal made a speech after receiving the party membership card. Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, wound up the ceremony on behalf of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee.

After this historic grand ceremony, which concluded with the playing of the Internationale, and to the great pleasure of the audience, Babrak Karmal visited the Central Committee organizations department for the registration and distribution of party membership cards.

The ceremony for the distribution of party membership cards was also attended by the permanent and candidate members of the PDPA Central Committee.

LA'EQ RETURNS FROM VISIT TO PAKTIA PROVINCE

LD030630 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0432 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Kabul, 2 Jan (BAKHTAR) -- Sulayman La'eq, minister of tribal affairs and nationalities [title as received], returned to Kabul from the Province of Paktia today.

Attending various meetings and jirgas in several regions of that province, he conveyed the warm and sincere greetings and good will of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, to the noble people of Paktia Province. The goodwill message was zealously and enthusiastically welcomed by the people of that province.

The elders of that province on behalf of the people of Paktia Province in the meetings and jirgas held in the presence of Sulayman La'eq and thousands of other citizens of that province severely condemned and denounced the undeclared war waged by the imperialists and reactionary circles against the freedom and independence of their beloved country, Afghanistan, and its Muslim and toiling people. They also assured the minister of tribal affairs and nationalities that they are prepared for extending any cooperation and sacrifice for the safeguarding of the Sawr Revolution and for the protection of the honour of the people.

AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN DOWN PLANE, 2 HELICOPTERS

GF011754 Karachi NAWA-E-WAQT in Urdu 30 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] London, 29 Dec (AGENCE AFGHAN PRESSE) -- The mujahidin have downed two Soviet helicopter gunships and one aircraft in Vardak Province of Afghanistan. The helicopters and the aircraft were attacking a mujahidin antiaircraft gun position in the (Akhvon Zadeh Kol) sector north of (Fahdabad) in Vardak Province.

PAKISTANI TRIBES' PROTESTS AGAINST FINES

LD212012 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Dec 81

[Text] The Pakistani militarist authorities have fined, as punishment, the Shinwar clan in Khaybar area because of the resistance of various clans in that area against the Islamabad regime's (?alternating) measures. The punishment amounts to 220,000 kaldars. The Afredi tribe, which is one of the largest clans in this area, has also been fined 15,000 kaldars. It must be said that other tribes in Landi Kotal and Sour Kamar also were (?affected). They have started protest strikes against the stationing of militarists of that regime, cutting off drinking water and electricity to homes and mosques, and also strikes against the enforcement of all Pakistani laws, similar to that of the border crimes law, which is one of the wicked legacies of British colonialism. These tribes consider these measures an open violation of the traditional freedom of the tribes.

According to reports reaching us from the border with Pakistan, official spokesmen a few days ago stated that as a result of the tribal protest strikes, the government has lost 10 million kaldars, equivalent to $1 million. The spokesman has claimed that these losses were inflicted as the result of a unit being set on fire [as heard], telephone lines being cut and a local branch of the Pakistan National Bank being destroyed. According to these reports, in most of the tribal areas in the Khaybar area, electricity and water have been cut off and in the area in Shinwar, telephone lines have been disrupted and disquiet has been created in tribal areas.

BRIEFS

PROTOCOLS WITH CSSR, HUNGARY -- Kabul, 31 Dec (BAKHTAR) -- A protocol for exchange of goods was signed in Prague between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Under this protocol the volume of trade between the two countries will be increased by ten percent as compared with the year 1981. Another protocol for exchange of goods on a barter basis was signed in Budapest between the DRA and the Hungarian People's Republic. Under this protocol the volume of trade will be increased to an amount of over eight million dollars. This protocol was signed in addition to the previous commercial agreement in effect between the two countries. This was stated by the deputy minister of commerce heading an Afghan delegation to Czechoslovakia and Hungary upon his return to Kabul. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 1 Jan 82 LD]

MECHANIZATION OF AGRICULTURE -- Kabul, 30 Dec (BAKHTAR) -- The mechanisation of agriculture in Afghanistan is proceeding at full speed and the tractors and combines are beginning to replace the traditional wooden plow. The seven mechanised agricultural stations recently set up with the help of the Soviet Union in the agricultural provinces of the country will help revolutionise agriculture in these provinces. The three mechanised stations operational in the cities of Sheberghan, Mazar-e Sharif, Pol-e Khomri and Kabul, are equipped with 170 tractors, 47 combines and another 1,730 units of agricultural equipment. Thanks to the facilities provided by them an area of 5.3 thousand hectares of land has been plowed by the tractors and harvested by the combines. Also, for the first time in the cotton growing areas of Balkh Province the cotton seeders were used. It elicited great response on the part of the farmers. The farmers throughout Afghanistan are growingly welcoming the introduction of these machineries. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 31 Dec 81 LD]

RAO INTERVIEWED ON INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY

BK031613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Excerpts] External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao said India has an open mind on a no-war pact with Pakistan. In an interview, Rao told PTI that India's response on the issue has been positive and correct.

Rao referred to the recent talks between India and China on border and other issues. He expressed the hope that efforts for normalization of Sino-Indian relations will continue in the new year.

On Indo-U.S. relations, the foreign minister said the overall position is good, but there were certain difficulties. He said there is still scope for improvement.

Rao said the world opinion on Afghanistan and Kampuchea had veered round to the Indian view that there can be no solution other than political. He recalled that the conference of nonaligned foreign ministers in New Delhi ended on a highly successful note. Rao also spoke of India's principled stand on Namibia and the considerable attention paid to west Asia. He said Mrs Gandhi's visit to Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates created a great impact.

GANDHI ON OPPOSITION PARTIES' UNITY MOVES

BK301607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] The prime minister has said that the opposition parties are trying to come together under one banner with the only aim of gaining power and not to achieve socialistic goals. Mrs Gandhi was addressing a largely attended public meeting in Phulpur near Allahabad today. She said that even if these groups with different iedologies come together, they will not only pose a threat to the national integration but will also retard the process of achieving socialism.

Tracing the history of the Janata Party, Mrs Gandhi said that during the 3-year period of their alliance, the country witnessed rampant corruption, communal tensions, riots and increase in atrocities on harijans, adibashis [tribals] and women. They had also lowered the image of the country abroad, Mrs Gandhi said.

She declared that she is not bothered about the unity move of the opposition parties and will not deviate from the declared policy of democratic socialism followed by the congress since independence.

Referring to farmers, the prime minister said the government is giving full attention to their problems. She said the Communist Party of India-Marxist government in West Bengal is creating a rift between the weaker sections of the society by taking away the land allotted to the harijans and giving it to their party workers.

Mrs Gandhi called upon the people to remain united for the progress of the nation.

CONTRACT SIGNED WITH USSR ON DAM CONSTRUCTION

BK010917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Jan 82

[Text] India and the Soviet Union are to collaborate in the construction of a dam in Himachal Pradesh using the directional blasting technique. The project is experimental and for research. The two countries signed the contract in New Delhi yesterday to prepare a feasibility report for the dam.

SAUDI OIL MINISTER HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE, LEAVES

BK030801 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] Saudi Oil Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani has said any request from Pakistan to the Saudi Fund for any project, whether it is in energy or any other fields, would receive very favorable consideration from the Saudi Government.

Addressing a news conference in Islamabad this evening before his departure for Tokyo at the end of his week-long official visit to Pakistan, he said the people of Pakistan were so dear to the Saudi people that they did not consider them two peoples.

He said during his visit he discussed with the Pakistan minister for petroleum and natural resources, (retired) Maj Gen Rao Farman Ali, matters relating to energy, mineral resources and bilateral relations. He said he was happy to know that efforts being made by Pakistan in the field of energy have started bearing fruit. Saudi Arabia, on its part, will do everything to help Pakistan solve them.

Shaykh Zaki Yamani said they also discussed matters relating to joint ventures as a whole which the Saudi Government would study further. Besides, matters relating to exchange of technology, exchange of students and professors also came up.

Referring to the agreement reached between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia on the import of crude oil, he said: As a rule, a certain proportion of light, medium and heavy crude oil is to be bought from Saudi Arabia but they have exempted Pakistan from the application of these rules and will supply only light oil to Pakistan.

Radio Pakistan's representative says the new agreement will result in a substantial saving to Pakistan.

ORDINANCE PROMULGATED TO CONTROL EXIT FROM COUNTRY

BK311728 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Text] The president has promulgated an ordinance which provides for the control of exit of certain persons from Pakistan. Under the ordinance the federal government may by order prohibit any person or class of persons from proceeding from Pakistan to a destination outside Pakistan, notwithstanding the fact that such a person is in possession of valid travel documents. Before maing such an order, it shall not be necessary to afford an opportunity of showing cause against the order.

Any person, aggrieved by an order of the federal government in this connection may make representation to the federal government within 15 days of the making of the order for a review of the order.

Violation of the order shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to 5 years.

The order which extends to the whole of the country shall come into force at once.

BRIEFS

HIGHWAY LINK WITH IRAN -- A plan has been prepared to construct a 500-km long highway between Bela and Mand. This plan will provide an alternative international highway to link Pakistan, Iran and the Middle East countries together. This highway will pass through Pakistan's coastal areas and terminate in Mand at the Pakistan-Iran border. From this point, a road already exists to go farther. This plan will cost 1,550 million rupees and will be completed in 4 years. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 1 Jan 82 BK]

VELAYATI RETURNS FROM, COMMENTS ON SYRIAN TALKS

Stopover in Turkey

LD021834 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who had gone to Syria at the head of a high-ranking delegation, met with the Turkish deputy prime minister and minister of finance at noon today at Istanbul airport on his way home.

A Central News Unit correspondent accompanying the delegation to Syria reports that, having welcomed the Iranian delegation, the Turkish finance minister commented on expansion of relations, economic links between Iran and Turkey, the arrival in Iran within the next few weeks of a high-ranking Turkish economic and technical delegation and Turkey's experience in improving its economy and combating the existing problems.

Afterwards, Foreign Minister Velayati made some remarks and, stressing the need for good neighborly relations between Iran and Turkey, said that we would like to have good relations with all our neighboring countries. Commenting on the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran, he said that we have close relations with the Iraqi nation. The war between Iran and Iraq is a result of the Americanized nature of the ruling Iraqi regime.

Alluding to the expansion of economic and industrial relations between the two countries, the Iranian foreign minister said that during the almost 3 years since the Islamic revolution in Iran we have acquired considerable experience in various fields, having already overcome a great many problems and economic requirements of the country. He added that the sort of economy we have in mind is one which bears no resemblance to either communism or capitalism.

Concluding his remarks, Mr Velayati expressed pleasure at the visit to Iran of the Turkish economic and technical delegation and said: You can visit Iran at any time you like to hold talks and exchange views on economic, industrial and other issues.

The report adds that Velayati then attended a press conference at noon today at Istanbul airport and replied to questions put to him on the reasons for the Iranian delegation's visit to Syria and the outcome of the talks.

Arrival in Tehran

GF021007 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Excerpt] Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign affairs minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, returned to Tehran today from Damascus. He concluded his 2-day visit to Syria, during which he met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and senior officials of fraternal Syria.

Interview on Return

LD021940 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati in Tehran on his return from Syria on 2 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [question indistinct]

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Considering the friendly stances adopted by Syria since the beginning of the Islamic revolution of Iran toward the Islamic revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran, it was natural that we would give special consideration to Syria in our foreign policy.

Following Mr Hafiz al-Asad's tour of Arab countries a proposal was put forward in the Syrian radio and press that Arab countries should put aside their small differences and deal with their main enemy, which is the regime occupying Jerusalem. The announcement of our trip to Syria and its coincidence with the abovementioned statement in the Syrian press provided the international news agencies, which are completely in the service of Zionists, with an opportunity to create an atmosphere of opposition to this trip and to misrepresent it.

They had three objectives in mind: One was to say that Iran is weary of the war and is not strong enough to continue it and is looking everywhere for a mediator. The second objective was to boost the morale of the tired and desperate soldiers of Saddam since they do not have any incentive to continue, and to say that the war will soon be over and that they should stay on the battlefields for a few more days and should not give up. Their third objective was to pretend that Syria is not the country it was before, that it has changed its basic stances and, despite being aware of Saddam's pro-American nature, it intends to mediate between us and Saddam.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank [words indistinct] for their warm welcome. Their sincerity and warmth exceeded our expectations. Despite his workload Mr Hafiz al-Asad met us twice, for 5 hours altogether, and during these two sessions we discussed in detail matters of mutual interest. We also had a meeting with Mr Khaddam lasting 1 hour, another meeting with the minister of [word indistinct] for 1 hour, another meeting with the minister of (?information) for 1 hour, a meeting with some members of the PLO military organization's leading cadre, a meeting with Iranian students residing in Syria, and a meeting with the minister of foreign affairs of the Muslim country of Mali who had travelled to Syria to express its country's support for the rightful stances adopted by Syria.

On our way back we had a short stopover at Istanbul airport and had a meeting with the Turkish deputy prime minister and that country's minister of finance. At these meetings I emphasized that the Islamic Republic of Iran is willing to establish peaceful coexistence with its neighbors if they are not hostile toward the Islamic Republic of Iran, especially since the two Muslim and friendly countries of Iran and Turkey have many (?mutual interests) and should live in peace and friendship with each other.

Yesterday, at about midday, we stressed at a press conference the rightful stances of the Islamic Republic of Iran and announced the main objective of this trip. We said that our main objective in travelling to Syria was to emphasize the unreserved and all-encompassing support of the Islamic Republic of Iran for Syria's stances in fighting Israel. When we were asked about the question of mediation, I said that this is a lie and a trick of imperialism in the press, and the fate [of the war] would be determined by our combatants at the fronts and this war will continue until the final victory of the Muslim nation.

All in all it was a positive and constructive trip and we hope to be able to go on trips like this to [word indistinct] the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran and we hope that our relations with Muslim countries and nonaligned countries will daily expand and strengthen.

[Question] What was Mr Hafiz al-Asad's reply to Mr Khamene'i's message?

[Answer] Mr Hafiz al-Asad expressed thanks for his invitation and said that he will travel to Tehran at the first available opportunity, God willing. He said that he would like very much to meet the imam and other leading officials of the Islamic Republic.

[Question] What was the attitude of the Syrian president on the war imposed by Iraq on Iran?

[Answer] His view, as before, was support for our rightful stances. Moreover, one of our aims in this trip was to give his excellency details of the amazing victories gained by the army of Islam.

Khomeyni Briefed

LD031238 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati was received in audience this morning by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The foreign minister submitted a report to the imam of the nation on his recent visit to fraternal Syria.

Press Conference

LD031840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, answered questions put to him by local and foreign correspondents at a press conference at the Foreign Ministry this afternoon. According to a correspondent of the Central News Unit, the foreign minister, after brief introductory remarks, said that the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is based on the heavenly commands of the Koran and on the Constitution. With regard to good relations with nonaggressive states, the foreign minister said: Since elimination of domination is one of the political principles of the Islamic Republic of Iran, when a country is subjected to aggression and facing some difficulties, we shall support it, particularly if it happens to be Islamic.

The foreign minister referred to the Zionist regime's annexation of the Golan Heights and said: In these circumstances we deemed it necessary to go to Syria and support it. This will promote strengthening of friendship between the two Islamic and progressive countries.

At this press conference, Mr Velayati enumerated the Islamic Republic of Iran's positions with regard to the imposed war and said: Since the beginning of the trip to Syria I have been saying both in speeches and interviews that there is no question of peace between Iran and Iraq and that the Iranian nation cannot talk of peace while an aggressor remains on its territory. I told this to the brother Syrians as well.

Continuing his remarks, Mr Velayati said: The Iranian nation is a peace-loving nation; our combative brothers on the imposed-war fronts are confronting the aggressors and driving them out of our Islamic homeland. We shall listen to whoever comes to Iran to talk about this matter, but our conditions are the same ones that we declared right at the start.

With regard to the possibility of a visit by Hafiz al-Asad to Iran, our country's foreign minister said: We shall listen to what he has to say as well. But we shall not go back on our conditions. We are firmly and steadfastly sticking to our position; in the talks we had with Hafiz al-Asad, the latter regarded our conditions as being fair and proper. Mr Velayati added: Hafiz al-Asad, the Syrian president, stressed that the Iraqi regime is the aggressor, agreeing with us; on matters of principle there were no differences between us.

In answer to a question as to whether the Syrian president made any proposals on ending the war or making peace, the foreign minister said: There were no proposals; nor were there any plans to discuss anything in this regard. The matters mentioned concerned the details of the victories of the army of Islam. These victories show that our country is economically and politically strong from within.

In connection with the possibility of visits to other countries of the region, Mr Velayati said: A visit to the Islamic and nonaligned countries, especially progressive countries, is a particular priority at the Foreign Ministry. We hope to pay a visit to the fraternal Libyan state at the earliest opportunity. He added: Exchanges of visits by the leaders of friendly countries is something natural.

If the leaders of Libya, Algeria, Palestine and other countries with whom our friendship is clear and obvious want to come to Iran, we would not only have no objections, but would sincerely welcome them. He added: The invitation extended to Hafiz al-Asad, one of the region's Muslim leaders, was made in light of Syria's particular role in the struggle against the regime occupying Jerusalem. This invitation was extended by His Excellency President Khamene'i.

With regard to his visit to Syria, Mr Velayati said: In this visit we acted as a messenger on behalf of the Iranian nation to convey the people's support for the firm positions adopted by Syria against the Zionist regime. Concerning the matters raised between the two friendly and fraternal countries and the provocations taking place against us in the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula, and with regard to the peaceful positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we believe that these provocations are being fomented by American imperialism. [sentence as heard]

Regarding his meeting in Damascus with the deputy leader of the Lebanese Amal Movement, Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati said: We regard the Amal Movement as a political-military movement of the Lebanese oppressed. We know that they have had a tough struggle against Zionism and that in southern Lebanon they have made many sacrifices and lost their young ones for the sake of freedom and the Islamic territories. Our talks dealt with these matters.

ETTELA'AT on Talks

LD022156 Tehran IRNA in English 1827 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 2 Jan (IRNA) [formerly PARS] -- The Persian daily ETTELA'AT published in Tehran said in a commentary today that at a time when the Islamic Republic of Iran is preoccupied with aggression against her territory by Saddam Husayn's army, it has invested in efforts for the destruction of the Zionist regime, and is ready to fight alongside with her Syrian brothers-in-faith for the liberation of Al-Quds. The paper, which was referring to the recent visit to Syria by Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati, said that at a time when Saddam Husayn was at the threshold of his fated fall, Iran is the most significant backing to Syria in its fight against the Zionist regime will be the downfall of Saddam Husayn. [sentence as received]

The commentary added that in the face of the situation any effort conscious or unconscious for keeping Saddam in power will be an effort in the interest of the United States and the Zionists. Added the commentary, "not only the U.S."-inspired Saddam, but also all reactionary governments of the region, should be toppled. But as long as Saudi regime has kept its oil taps open to the United States and the West, the United States will never cease supporting the Zionist regime which will continue with its aggressions. In a direct repudiation of the possibility of any planned settlement of the conflict by negotiations, the paper said "the toppling of the U.S.-inspired Saddam will in fact set an example for the liberation struggles of the vigilant Muslims and of the Arab world...for only once he is toppled from power will the Muslim world know for sure that they can throw the occupier Zionists into the very bottom of the sea and even barehandedly...."

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR ON RELATIONS WITH SYRIA

PM311531 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 20 Dec 81 p 16

[ETTELA'AT "diplomatic correspondent" interview with Iranian Ambassador to Syria Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi: "The Explosion in Damascus Was Revenge for Syria's Help in Opposing the Fahd Plan"]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive interview with the ETTELA'AT diplomatic correspondent, the Islamic Republic of Iran's Ambassador to Syria Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi -- who has come to Tehran to report on his posting -- described Iran-Syria relations as "developing," and referred to Hafiz al-Asad as the president who was best championing Iran's Islamic revolution.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador to Syria described Syria's military presence in Lebanon as the main factor for security and peace in Lebanon. In reply to other questions by the ETTELA'AT correspondent, he connected the recent Damascus explosion to the failure of the Fahd plan and concluded that America and Saudi Arabia had a hand in the bombing incident. The ambassador gave his views on the reasons for the annexation of the Golan Heights by the occupying regime in Jerusalem and stated that Israel had been looking for an opportunity to do this from the outset.

The Iranian ambassador to Syria also referred to the external state and propaganda position of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Embassy in Syria.

Relations Between Iran and Syria

On relations between Iran and Syria, Mr Mohtashemi said: This is an issue which harks back to the victory of Iran's Islamic revolution, following which Syria felt that its greatest enemy after Israel [shah's Iran] had disappeared, that it could now continue its struggle against Israel with an easy mind, and that Israel no longer possessed a strong arm such as the Pahlavi dynasty to aid it.

Since the fall of the shah, relations between the two countries have developed and improved daily. However, no developments at the embassy level had taken place previously and therefore, although relations were growing closer, they were not as good as they might have been, that is to say, our representative in Syria would not or could not do his job properly.

My going to Syria was the beginning: The Syrian authorities realized that Iran wanted to improve its relations with Syria. In my talks with the Syrian authorities, I sensed their optimism with regard to Iran's Islamic revolution. The Syrian Government is strongly opposed to America and the regime occupying Jerusalem, while most of the Arab countries of the region are either formally dependent on America or bending in that direction.

Syria and the countries of the steadfastness front feel the need for friends who are fellow-fighters and hold similar views. This is something discernible from many of their remarks and statements.

Hafiz al-Asad's Defense of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Continuing on the same subject, the Iranian ambassador stated that, following the Islamic revolution, many governments either formally or secretly opposed our revolution, and few heads of state supported Iran; Hafiz al-Asad, however, had done so.

Referring to remarks by Hafiz al-Asad, Mr Mohtashemi said: Such remarks provide best proof of the favor with which the Syrian authorities regard Iran's Islamic revolution.

The Damascus Explosion: Revenge by America and Arabia

In reply to a question by our correspondent, the Iranian ambassador to Syria interpreted the connection between the recent explosion in Damascus and the failed Fahd plan in the following terms:

The explosion occurred following the failure of the Fes conference, at which the Fahd plan was to be discussed (not an Arab plan, but one which American and Israeli advisers had worked on). This was revenge on the part of America, Israel and Saudi Arabia for Syria's help and resistance at the Fes conference. The bombing took place 2 or 3 days after the failure of the Fes conference. In our talks with diplomatic authorities in Syria, we warned that in order to quell Arab feeling and the anger of the Arab nations, Israel would first outwardly oppose plans which it had itself helped to draw up and with which it agreed, but later, when things had calmed down, would declare its acceptance. This was the case in regard to the Fahd plan, which was dictated to Fahd by American and Israeli advisers. If it had been an Arab plan, Fahd would have discussed it with various parties during his travels.

OIL OFFICIAL ON DISPATCH OF EXPERTS TO LIBYA

LD021404 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] In connection with the dispatch of oil experts from the Islamic Republic of Iran to our brother country of Libya, our correspondent has prepared a report to which we draw your attention:

Following the boycott of Libya by America and American oil companies, Libya could have faced a shortage of oil experts and specialists. Therefore, the Oil Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran has dispatched a team of its high-ranking experts to Libya. The team's mission is to carry out preliminary studies on Libyan oil output possibilities and shortages. The team will then present the results of its studies to the Iranian Oil Ministry and to the Libyan Government to prepare for future cooperation.

The deputy oil minister, Mr Kheradmand, has given details of possible cooperation between the two countries in this field:

[Begin recording] [Kheradmand] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [Koranic quotation indistinct] Following an interview given by the prime minister on assisting the Libyan Government in the oil (?industry) field, and after an announcement by the Oil Ministry, the Libyan ambassador met with the oil minister in (?Tehran) and requested the dispatch of a delegation to our brother country of Libya. We decided to send a team of our oil experts to Libya in order to translate our words into action. This team is to carry out a preliminary survey in this field and after their first report we shall take immediate and decisive action.

[Correspondent] (?Under what conditions, how many and what types of experts are there, and how will they work in Libya)?

[Answer] This team has experts in every practical aspect of the oil, petrochemical and gas industries. The number of experts in this team is approximately 10. They will carry out studies in the fields of exploration, excavation, production, transportation and installation, such as pumping stations, pressure-boosting stations, and in some other fields, such as repair and supply.

[Question] How long will this preliminary study take?

[Answer] We think it will take 7-10 days. Of course, if the Libyan authorities ask for this period to be extended we will not mind.

[Question] After this preliminary survey, what practical cooperation will there be between Iran and Libya, and when?

[Answer] We shall first wait to see the team's report. After reviewing the report and its results, we shall take immediate steps to gather volunteer groups so that, God willing, all doubts in this connection will be removed.

[Question] You remember that this problem which Libya is facing as a result of the American boycott was raised at the OPEC oil ministers' summit in Abu Dhabi -- both Iran and Libya raised this issue. Is this action taken by Iran a voluntary action, taken individually, or is this action taken within the framework of multilateral cooperation among OPEC member countries?

[Answer] It is purely voluntary action. In view of our experience in this industry -- gained over approximately 30 years -- in the specialization, administration and self-sufficiency fields, we believe that we are fully able to give a positive reply to such requests.

[Question] What effect do you think this U.S. and U.S. oil companies boycott will have on Libya? What practical and real effect will this boycott have on Libyan oil? And can Iran, with the cooperation of Libya, really fill the gap left by the departed American experts?

[Answer] In my view this (?boycott) is a blessing in disguise. It will actually help our brother country Libya to think about rapidly becoming self-sufficient in this field. Approximately 2-300 of our experts, including our oil engineers and technicians, can give short-term intensive training -- with, of course, the cooperation of our Libyan friends -- in this industry. They will be able to make the Libyan Government (?self-reliant).

[Question] Will Iran itself not face difficulties through a shortage of experts?

[Answer] No, not at all. As I said, in view of our long record in the field of running our own (?industry, and with the awareness of the role of our Iranian experts), there will be no difficulties and nothing to worry about. [end recording]

MAJLIS DEPUTY ON TERRORISM, GOLAN HEIGHTS

GF040552 Tehran IRNA in English 1609 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 3 Jan (IRNA) -- The Bahraini Government's allegation that the Islamic Republic of Iran had dispatched terrorists to Bahrain and the organised propaganda tirade launched by the reactionary governments of the region against the Islamic revolution of Iran are prove [as received] how much these countries fear the Iranian revolution, said the deputy of Amol (Caspian area), Kazem Nowruzi, in the open session of the Majlis this morning.

In the continuation of his speech he stressed the fact that Iran did not need to send terrorists abroad, although it believes that the destiny of all rulers who are working against Islam and the Muslim nation would be the same as that of the defunct shah, that is to say that sooner or later, he explained, the Muslim nations of the region, inspired by the liberating Islamic revolution of Iran, would do away with U.S. and Zionist agents in the region.

In another part of his speech, talking about the official annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights declared by the Zionist parliament, he said that it was well-calculated by the Quds usurping regime and the U.S. with the assistance of the reactionary rulers of the region. The objective of this plan is to weaken Syria and ultimately push it towards negotiations, he said.

He then welcomed the upcoming trip of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Iran and hoped that all those interested in the liberation of Palestine and other occupied Arab territories would realise that the liberation of these lands could not be materialised through the Fes conferences and proposals of Fahd, but rather the solution lies in the strong arms of the army of Islam. The herald of the liberation of Quds and the Golan Heights will be the victory of the Islamic forces in the Iraqi-imposed war on Iran, which will begin with the overthrow of Saddam.

At the end of his speech, Nowruzi hailed the action of the government in dispatching a team of Iranian oil experts to Libya.

Tehran Deputy Doa'i, who said that never before in history had any government given leaves to political prisoners without their being guarded and then witness the prisoners themselves returning to prison at the end of the period, but now this was happening in Iran. Besides, the prisoners are given the privilege to attend open air Friday prayers and to talk to the people freely.

Referring to the issue of the imposed war, he said despite all the economic problems that the war has inflicted on Iran and the brother nation of Iraq, it has turned our army into a strong and united army and instead has resulted in the humiliation and despair of the enemy.

During the session, a bill to which a double urgency clause was attached was presented to the Majlis by a number of deputies and the government. The bill was on the claims of the Islamic Republic of Iran against a foreign company, J.N.P.S., concerning its agreements with the company. The urgency of the bill was approved and discussion on the bill will be continued in future sessions.

The session ended at noon, and the next meeting is scheduled for 8.00 a.m. Tuesday.

KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH CIVILIAN, MILITARY LEADERS

LD021856 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Supreme Defense Council met this evening with the participation of President Khamene'i, Supreme Court President Musavi-Ardabili, Majlis Speaker and representative of the imam [on the Supreme Defense Council] Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Chief of Joint Staff Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, Defense Minister Colonel Salimi and Revolution Guards Commander Mohsen Reza'i. The meeting was held at Imam Khomeyni's residence and dealt with the situation at the various fronts in the imposed war between Iran and Iraq and recent war developments. The necessary decisions were then taken.

According to our correspondent, Hojjat ol-Elsam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni also attended the meeting.

SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT ARDABILI INTERVIEWED

LD031330 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] Supreme Court President Musavi-Ardabili has attended a press, radio and television conference, in which foreign and domestic correspondents took part, and answered their questions. According to a Central News Unit correspondent, in today's press conference the president of the Supreme Court and member of the Supreme Judicial Council, in answer to a question on how the Supreme Judicial Council views the operations of the State Inspectorate, said: The State Inspectorate has already accomplished a great deal. To date it has managed to visit a great many hospitals, having already submitted its reports to the council. It has also dispatched five delegations to various provinces. All offenses will, at any rate, be attended to.

Musavi-Ardabili then emphasized that following the imam's decree all offenses will be definitely contained. [sentence as heard] As for visiting prisoners, certain plans are being implemented which will be shortly announced.

Commenting on granting amnesty to prisoners, he said: So far we have given between 10 to 12 amnesties annually; this plan will be continued as before.

Alluding to the duties of judicial police, the president of the Supreme Court said: The duty of this organization is to communicate and carry out orders issued by the Ministry of Justice and to perform similar tasks. He added: According to already formulated plans, various law faculties can exist in various universities. [sentence as heard] He then went on to say: We do not want to keep anyone in prison. Our plans for prisoners are mainly educational. One of these plans was the recent participation of 400 prisoners in Friday prayers and similar programs. As far as we are concerned, this was extremely satisfying. He then said: If the repentant prisoners have not killed anyone, they will be released without delay, unless it is not advisable due to certain considerations.

He then gave an exclusive interview to a Central News Unit correspondent and replied to his questions:

[Begin recording] [Question] Following the imam's decree concerning the prevention of offenses and the proper implementation of law, the State Inspectorate announced offenses committed by some institutions. It is the Supreme Judicial Council which determines the punishment for these offenders. What is the punishment for these individuals or institutions?

[Answer] The offenders will be handed over to courts; the courts then attend to the offenses and anyone who has committed an offense will be punished accordingly.

[Question] In view of the establishment of an administrative court of justice, whose bill is nearly completed by the Majlis and the Council of Guardians, (?can one anticipate its commencement)?

[Answer] The matter has not yet been [officially] communicated. The thing is that its executive regulations should be formulated. However, the preliminary work has been completed.

[Question] According to the Constitution and in view of the fact that the only source of attending to justice is the Justice Ministry, what is going to be done about the revolution courts? Are they to be merged with the Justice Ministry in the future?

[Answer] The plan for this is being formulated [words indistinct] for it has been given priority.

[Question] What about special courts, their present status and future forms?

[Answer] They are being studied; some investigations have been made. One ought to wait for the outcomes. If it proves they have been useful, then they will be allowed to operate; otherwise, they will be abolished or changed. At any rate, some of them have been investigated and other are in the process of being investigated.

[Question] As far as you are concerned, what is the status of prisoners, qualitatively and quantitatively?

[Answer] As far as their numbers are concerned, they have already been announced. However, this is not a fixed number. So, anyone commenting on the number ought to take this into account, for the number increases or declines daily. As for the quality, what we have seen so far shows that their condition is good. However, it is not flawless or without deficiency. The senior authorities of the country are exerting consistent efforts; they have given priority to the matter, hoping to overcome the present problems and deficiencies.

[Question] Considering that Islamic laws have not yet achieved the desired stage, that the people are seriously annoyed in certain instances with the antipopular laws, could you please tell us what decision has been made by the Supreme Judicial Council?

[Answer] There is a short-term plan. Once the Council of Guardians agrees to the plan, it will be implemented for the time being, so that the people will calm down to some extent. Then the long-term plan will be enforced.

[Question] As for the overall role of the elected members of the Supreme Judicial Council, considering the Council of Guardians interpretation, what is their future status?

[Answer] The general job descriptions of the Supreme Judicial Council have been stipulated in the Constitution. In a nutshell: formulation of bills, supervision and appointment and dismissal of judges.

All in all, the salient judicial and administrative issues have been entrusted to the Supreme Judicial Council. Either they will attend to these matters directly or through their representatives.

[Question] [Words indistinct] that this would involve some limitations for them?

[Answer] Whether it creates limitations or otherwise, this does not abolish responsibility. They are expected to carry out their responsibilities; it is not, however, necessary for them to do this; their representatives may do this.

[question indistinct]

[Answer] Their [judicial police] duties involve summoning, [word indistinct], enforcement. This is (?one aspect) of the judicial system. Once it issues a verdict, then no delay should be made in enforcing it.

[Question] Considering that certain aspects of high prices and [words indistinct] are handled by special courts of the Ministry of Justice, what are the plans of the Ministry of Justice or the Supreme Judicial Council?

[Answer] In the past there were certain plans, there were committees, there were [word indistinct], they operated for some time and then investigated. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

MUSAVI DISCUSSES BUDGET, ISLAMIC COUNCILS

LD021440 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Jan 82

Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, in an interview today gave his views on the coming year's budget, on economic problems and on Iraq's accusations about the execution of Iraqi prisoners of war.

On presenting the draft budget to Majlis in Bahman [Iranian month beginning 21 January], the prime minister said: For the first time in the history of our revolution, thanks to the hard work of the Cabinet, the Economic Council and the Plan and Budget Organization, God willing, we intend to take this draft budget to the Majlis in Bahman and in these coming weeks the government and the Economic Council will be very busy. Of course, I also wish to give you the good news that in the new draft budget we shall see new changes concerning the control and startup of industries and major projects.

In connection with foreign currency control and continuation of the quota system, Mr Musavi said: The foreign currency quota system which was started by the Economic Council as a bold action out of necessity has now been expanded and, thanks to the experience of the past 2 months and the aggregate of our experience, for the first time in the history of our budget we are moving toward accurate planning in this respect. Undoubtedly, this will enable us, step by step, to reduce our dependence on foreigners, to stop the import of a great many unnecessary goods into our country and to prepare the groundwork for the growth and burgeoning forth of our industries.

The prime minister added: The experience of the past 2 months has been truly earth-shaking for us. Just imagine, one of the imports stopped was 700,000 undershirts. Unfortunately, such examples are not few.

We are certain that our persistence along this path will change the pattern of consumption and will make our economy healthy. It will impart growth to our industries and, more importantly, it will have a very profound cultural and spiritual effect on our society.

The question was asked: The Iraqi Government has written a letter to the UN secretary general reiterating previous claims about the execution of Iraqi prisoners. What is your opinion?

Mr Musavi said: The falseness of this claim has already been revealed and all the world knows the reason why Iraq has raised this issue. At any rate, we wish to embark on an unprecedented course of action. I officially invite the fathers and mothers of Iraqi prisoners to come to Iran on the occasion of the Revolution Day celebrations in order to visit their sons. We will welcome and look after them, but I am not quite sure the Iraqi Government will permit this popular move.

In connection with the latest remarks by the imam of the Islamic nation on Islamic councils, the prime minister said: Islamic councils are the messengers of revolution in government departments and other institutions and, thanks to their kind of Islamic approach to problems, have been able to bring about fundamental changes in the working atmosphere.

If Islamic councils wish to continue to play this role they should refrain from interfering in management affairs. The speech by the imam of the Islamic nation will result in greater strength and power for the Islamic councils and it has removed a great many pretexts for crushing the Islamic councils.

I believe that insinuating tempters exist in government departments who, on the one hand, under an Islamic cover, attempt to carry out sabotage with their unwarranted interference in the work of responsible officials selected by the government and, on the other hand, to blacken the name of the Islamic councils. There are simple folk about who could be swayed by these insinutating tempters.

For instance, in a certain city a university rector was replaced due to a lack of coordination on the part of the authorities and for the past several months a number of people, in the name of Islam, have been insisting that the new rector is one thing or another despite the fact that these panjandrums have already talked to the country's top officials without being able to convince them of their case. Nevertheless, they create a new issue every day. I wish to point out that this method of action is both un-Islamic and against the shari'ah.

Anyhow, I am convinced that persons believing in the Islamic revolution in this dear Islamic institution will follow the command of the imam and will employ genuine criteria in determining the truthfulness of individuals. Undoubtedly, just as the imam of the Islamic nation has graciously said, should there be a complaint against an official or if you should see him commit a misdeed then, now that today the rule of law is supreme in the country, these instances should be raised with the official quarters.

On another suitable occasion I shall speak about the services rendered by Islamic councils and the dangers which could threaten this institution. I will confine myself here to saying that the government line has constantly been one of support for the revolutionary institutions and so far the government has pursued this line.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 746-749

746: 31 Dec Report

LD311732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Dec 81

[Communique 746 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear compatriots: The situation on the battlefronts and the self-sacrifices of the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are hereby brought to your attention:

Between 0130 and 0700 yesterday, 30 December, the disintegrating enemy launched three consecutive attacks on our forces' positions in the region of (?Siah Kuh). But each time it was forced to retreat after suffering some loss and damages. During each attack several enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded and some of their equipment was destroyed.

During yesterday's operations on the Gilan-e Gharb, Sar-e Pol-e Gharb and Meymak fronts, the combatants of the ground forces opened artillery fire on the invading Iraqi forces' positions and, while silencing enemy fire and killing or wounding several personnel of the forces of blasphemy, destroyed one heavy 120-mm mortar and several foxholes and trenches of the Saddamists.

Sporadic exchange of fire continued on other western fronts of the country.

At 1700 yesterday an intense battle took place between combatants of the gendarmerie and the enemy on the Nowsud and Sheykhan fronts. No accurate information is available on the level of enemy losses during this battle.

Battles continued on the southern fronts between our powerful forces and the enemy and artillery and other heavy-weapon fire was exchanged from time to time. On the Susangerd and Bostan fronts the combatants of Islam, while consolidating their defensive positions, continued to defend the regions under their protection. Our forces continue their brave resistance on these fronts in order to destroy the enemy as soon as possible.

In the battles of 29 December 37 comrades in arms of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran joined the rank of the martyrs. May their souls be blessed.

747: 1 Jan Report

LD011746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jan 82

[Communique 747 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are sincerely loyal to their pact with the imam of the nation and, with the help of God, are taking steps toward defending the objectives and great goals of beloved Islam, guarding every inch of the soil of the Islamic country of Iran.

At 1204 today an Iraqi gunboat was sunk by fighter planes of the Iranian Air Force near Al-'Amarah.

In the last 24 hours the victorious combatants of Islam opened artillery fire on assembly points and positions of Iraqi forces and silenced enemy fire, inflicting other damage and casualties on them. Exchange of fire continued on all western fronts and enemy movements were restricted by our combatants. Intensive fire by our forces foiled enemy activities.

A group of our brave combatants succeeded in penetrating enemy lines in the Tavilah region; their fire destroyed five trenches and a quantity of arms and ammunition belonging to Saddam's soldiers and killed several of the enemy forces.

In the Gilan-e Gharb region, the heroic gendarmerie personnel opened fire on an enemy assembly point, resulting in the death of 25 aggressors and the wounding of a great many others. An enemy observation post was also destroyed. In the Tang-e Hajiyan region, our forces' fire on enemy positions destroyed several heavy-weapons positions, and several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded.

In the regions to the west of Dezful, Abadan and Khuninshahr, exchange of fire continued.

Fire by the courageous personnel of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran killed 8 Iraqi soldiers in the occupied part of Khuninshahr and in the Abadan region, 1 82-mm mortar and several trenches and foxholes of the enemy were destroyed, and 15 of Islam's enemies were either killed or wounded. Yesterday the aggressor Iraqi aircraft shelled several residential areas in Abadan, causing some property damage. On other fronts in the south of the country, our forces opened fire on the enemy to stop its movements while consolidating their own positions.

748: 2 Jan Report

LD021758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Communique 748 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. According to reports from the air force, at 1608 today one of the aggressor aircraft of the Iraqi Armed Forces was downed by the fire of fighter aircraft of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region ot the west of Sanandaj.

Yesterday battle continued on most of the country's western fronts with repeated fire being more intense on the Meymak front. On the Marivan front, one 50-caliber machinegun, five trenches with their personnel and an observation post were destroyed. The heavy-weapon fire of our combatants inflicted considerable damage and casualties on Saddam's positions and forces in the [name indistinct] region.

In Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Gilan-e Gharb and Salehabad, the powerful combatants of the ground forces succeeded in firing intensively on the enemy's artillery, tank and infantry positions, thus destroying two cannons, five vehicles, one 75-mm fieldgun and several trenches and foxholes. In the operations in these regions six tanks, one Katyusha and several mortars of the Iraqi forces were damaged. Those killed or wounded among the enemy forces number 12.

The gendarmerie combatants on the Dar Ballut front opened fire on enemy positions and destroyed a 57-mm rifle and an observation post, killing several Iraqi personnel.

On the southern fronts, the combatants of the armed forces continued responding with their artillery and heavy weapons to fire by Iraqi forces and, while defending their own positions, restricted the movements and activities of the Iraqi forces and dealt effective blows to the enemy forces at every available opportunity. The heroes of the navy on the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts, while responding to enemy fire, destroyed three observation posts and two 50-caliber machinegun positions and killed four of the enemy.

In the battles on 30-31 December 17 combatants of Islam lost their pure lives while defending their Islamic homeland of Iran, 14 of whom were from the Ground Forces, 2 from the Gendarmerie and 1 from the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. God's blessings on their pure souls.

749: 3 Jan Report

LD031136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Communique 749 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Noble and Muslim people of Iran: From midnight on 1 January the combatants of Islam, consisting of the units of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the gendarmerie, the aviation forces, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Mobilization forces and the Kurdish Muslim peshmerga, chanting "There is God but God," started a series of operations codenamed "Mohammad Is God's Messenger" to identify, fight and disturb the enemy's combat organiztion in the areas of Tavilah and (?Diyala) and to take captives and destroy the enemy's equipment

Up to the time of the dispatch on the report on these operations, they had managed to kill or wound about 700 of the Iraqi forces and to take a large number of them captive, so that thus far 114 prisoners have been evacuated, while some others are being evacuated, and a large quantity of spoils of war have been seized by our forces.

Meanwhile, the command base of Iraq's 116th Brigade in Tavilah has been completely destroyed. The details of operation "Mohammad Is God's Messenger" willbe brought to the attention of the Muslim Iranian nation later.

IRANIANS ATTACK SEVEN BASES INSIDE IRAQ

LD031810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 82

[Text] A Central News Unit correspondent reports from the front line that our combatants penetrated Iraqi territory and destroyed more than seven enemy bases yesterday in a victorious operation codenamed "Mohammadan Rasullallah." The enemy suffered a disgraceful defeat, and a large number of POW's, among whom are many commanders, have been taken to locations in the rear areas, In this strike operation, the combatants of Islam killed or wounded several hundred Saddamist aggressors, destroyed a number of collective entrenchments, tanks and large caliber weapons and captured a considerable quantity of arms and ammunition. Two enemy ammunition dumps inside the town of Tavilah were also blown up. All enemy positions fell into our hands during this operation, which lasted from 0630 to 1400 yesterday, and our forces captured a large number of Saddam's soldiers inside Iraqi territory. This was a crushing warning to Saddam's blasphemous regime that we can capture or threaten Iraqi cities and that this policy enjoys the complete support of the Muslim people of Iraq. Thirteen of our brothers in the Mobilization corps and seven of our military brothers were martyred in this operation.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON TOUR OF FARS PROVINCE

GF021605 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 2 Jan 82

[Text] According to our correspondent's report, a meeting devoted to security in Fars Province has been held in Shiraz in the presence of the interior minister. Our correspondent adds that the meeting was attended by Interior Minister Nateq-Nuri, Ne'matollah (Toghah), the newly appointed Fars governor general, and other officials of Fars Province. Various topics were discussed and decisions were made.

During his tour of Fars Province, the interior minister visited the martyr 'Abdollah Mesgar Garrison at 0800 yesterday. He delivered a speech to a large number of Mobilization warriors and Islamic revolution guards who are departing for the battle of right against wrong under the name of martyr Ayatollah Dastgheyb.

Mr Nateq-Nuri also attended two separate meetings yesterday with the governors of Fars Province and with officials of revolutionary organiztions. During these meetings he disucssed the province's problems, including the need for coordination of the organizations' activities.

BRIEFS

GACHSARAN GOVERNOR APPOINTED -- The governor general of Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad has appointed Mahmud Ebrahim governor of Gachsaran. [Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 31 Dec 81 GF]